

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02322 301142Z

12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-13 /071 W

----- 078389

R 301045Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5211

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 2322

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: US STATEMENT ON LEBANON

1. DURING SEPT. 29 MEETING WITH DIRECTOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY ABDELMAJID ADJALI I PRESENTED HIM WITH TEXT OF DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT ON INSTALLATION OF ELIAS SARKIS AS PRESIDENT OF LEBANON. I SAID WE THOUGHT INSTALLATION WAS HOPEFUL EVENT AND BELIEVED EVERYONE SHOULD RALLY ROUND TO SUPPORT GOVERNMENT. HE WOULD FIND DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT OF INTEREST AND PARTICULARLY FACT WE WERE NOT SUPPORTING PARTITION OF LEBANON. I NOTED THAT MORNING PRESS REPORTED PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE HAD SENT MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE IBRAHIMI TO DAMASCUS WITH MESSAGE ON SUBJECT OF LEBANON. COULD HE SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT?

2. ADJALI SAID ALGERIANS WANTED SEE PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF LEBANESE PROBLEM AND EMERGENCE OF UNITED, NON-ALIGNED AND RELIGIOUSLY TOLERANT LEBANON. THEY OPPOSED SYRIAN INTERVENTION WHICH SEEMED DESIGNED DESTROY PLO. IT HAD BEEN SAID AMERICANS ENCOURAGED SYRIANS IN THEIR INTERVENTION. DESTRUCTION OF PLO WOULD RETARD RATHER THAN PROMOTE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT BECAUSE PLO HAD UNIFIED PALESTINIANS AND HAD BEEN MAKING SINCERE EFFORT MODERATE PALESTINIAN POSITIONS.

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PAGE 02 ALGIER 02322 301142Z

3. I SAID U.S. HAD NOT ENCOURAGED SYRIAN INTERVENTION. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HOWEVER, IT CLEAR TO ME THAT SOME FORM OF OUTSIDE INTERVENTION WAS INEVITABLE BECAUSE LEBANESE INCAPABLE OF RESOLVING THEIR PROBLEMS THEMSELVES. IDEALLY, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ARAB LEAGUE, BUT CERTAINLY US DID NOT WANT TO INTERVENE. AS FOR PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE, IT HAD COMMITTED SERIOUS ERROR IN MOVING INTO AREA SUCH AS METN WHICH TRADITIONALLY CRISTIAN AND DRUZE. CHRISTIAN REACTION AGAINST THEM WAS INEVITABLE. ADJALI NOTED THEY WERE THERE UNDER SPONSORSHIP JUMBLATT WHO HIMSELF A DRUZE. I SAID JUMBLATT SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO INTRODUCE FOREIGNERS INTO THAT AREA.PARKER

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## Message Attributes

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